

SENATE BILL 597

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,
Chapter 58, Part 1, relative to the eligibility
verification for entitlements act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-58-102, is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

() "Qualified alien" means:

(A) A qualified alien as defined by 8 U.S.C. § 1641(b); or

(B) An alien or nonimmigrant eligible to receive state or local public benefits under 8 U.S.C. § 1621(a);

() "SEVIS system" means the student and exchange visitor information system created pursuant to section 641 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, Public Law 104-208 (as amended), and operated by the United States department of homeland security, or any successor program thereto;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-58-103(b)(1)(A)(ii), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(ii) A qualified alien; and

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-58-103(d)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) If an applicant who claims eligibility as a qualified alien is unable to present two (2) forms of documentation as described in subdivision (d)(1), then the applicant shall present at least one (1) such document that the entity or local health department shall then verify through the SAVE program or the SEVIS system.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.